



CA Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs Community Alcohol and Other Drug Stakeholder Meeting OVERVIEW OF KEY STATE DEPARTMENTS August 2011

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

The Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) mission is to preserve and improve the health status of all Californians. DHCS works closely with health care professionals, county governments and health plans to provide a health care safety net for California's low-income and persons with disabilities.

DHCS finances and administers a number of individual health care service delivery programs, including the California Medical Assistance Program (Medi-Cal), California Children's Services program, Child Health and Disability Prevention program and Genetically Handicapped Persons Program. DHCS also helps maintain the financial viability of critical specialized care services, such as burn centers, trauma centers and children's specialty hospitals. In addition, DHCS funding helps hospitals and clinics located in underserved areas and those serving underserved populations.

DHCS programs are designed to:

- Deliver health care services to low-income persons and families who meet defined eligibility requirements;
- Emphasize prevention-oriented health care measures that promote health and well-being;
- Ensure access to comprehensive health services through the use of public and private resources; and
- Ensure appropriate and effective expenditure of public resources to serve those with the greatest health care needs.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

CDPH is the lead entity in California providing core public health functions and essential services. CDPH is dedicated to optimizing the health and well-being of the people in California. CDPH achieves this mission through the following core activities:

- Promoting healthy lifestyles for individuals and families in their communities and workplaces.
- Preventing disease, disability, and premature death and reducing or eliminating health disparities.
- Protecting the public from unhealthy and unsafe environments.
- Providing or ensuring access to quality, population-based health services.
- Preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.
- Producing and disseminating data to inform and evaluate public health status, strategies and programs.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS)

CDSS provides administration and oversight of programs that affect nearly 3 million residents—foster children and youth, children and families receiving aid through the California Work Opportunities and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), adults and elderly in licensed community care facilities and aged, blind and disabled recipients requiring In-Home Supportive Services or Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI-SSP) assistance.

CDSS administers state programs in partnership with California's 58 counties and sovereign tribes by:

- Ensuring efficient, accurate, and equitable delivery of payments and benefits
- Providing services that foster self-sufficiency and dignity
- Providing social services to the elderly, blind, disabled and other children and adults
- Licensing and regulating foster homes, group homes, residential care facilities, day care facilities, and preschools
- Evaluating eligibility of applicants for federal Social Security and State programs